

FREMONT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

Fremont Town Hall
 295 Main Street
 Fremont, NH 03044
October 16, 2013
 7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Charles Kimball called the October 16, 2013 Budget Committee meeting to order at 7:02 pm on the main floor of Fremont Town Hall.

Present were: Budget Committee Members Gene Cordes, Charles Kimball, Pat Martel, Joe Micelle, Mike Nygren, and Greg Fraize; and Recording Secretary Susan Perry. Members of the public included Fire Chief Richard Butler and Leon Holmes, Sr.

II. FIRE RESCUE BUDGET (4220)

Fire Chief Richard Butler reviewed the Fire Rescue budget (4220). The increase in Office Supplies was due to maintenance of the copy machine. The LOSAP Plan decreased a bit due to participation. The Officer & Coord. Stipends line should have been \$4800 (not \$5000 as was in the 10/16/13 budget printout). EMS Training was increased because there were more people certified as EMTS (first responders); cost included recertification, continuing education for points, CPR, etc.). The New & Repl. EMS Equipment line included the purchase of a refurbished EKG monitor (this was now a basic skill and 14 out of 16 people were trained). This would help get better vital information before going to the hospital. The EMS Supplies line would cover electrodes/parts for the EKG monitor. The New & Repl. Fire Equipment line increased in order to replace equipment due to age. There were increases in Fuel & Oil, Communications (to replace radios) and Telephones (due to increase cost).

There would be two Warrant Articles: 8 SCBAs (this reflects the remaining half of 16 units that needed to be replaced; 8 were on a Warrant Article last year) - @ \$47,088; and FIRE TRUCK @ \$360,000 (total cost would be @ \$470,000; @\$150,000 was in the Capital Reserve). A lease purchase program would require about \$70,000-\$75,000 for minimum payment. A concern was that Warrant Articles (e.g. for the Police cruiser) did not pass last year.

Mr. Kimball suggested reducing the Dues & Membership line by \$250. Mr. Holmes noted that this line increased due to an increase in dues. Mr. Fraize clarified that the Officer & Coord. Stipends line was really \$4800 (not \$5000 as was printed).

Greg Fraize recommended the \$187,398 in 4220 FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT. Joe Micelle seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

III. TOWN BUDGETS APPROVED AND READY FOR REVIEW

A. 4151 FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION: OTHER (TREASURER, TTF, AUDIT, BUD COMM)

This budget was level-funded. There was a \$1,000 increase in the Annual Audit by contract.

Greg Fraize recommended the Board of Selectmen's recommendation of \$20,060 for line 4151 FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION: OTHER (TREASURER, TTF, AUDIT, BUD COMM). Joe Micelle seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

B. 4152 REAPPRAISAL OF PROPERTY

Overall, this budget was down for the year. There was a \$1,000 increase in Util Val Update to allow for any appeals/abatement requests.

Greg Fraize recommended the Board of Selectmen's recommendation of \$38,370 for line 4152 REAPPRAISAL OF PROPERTY. Joe Micelle seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

C. 4195 CEMETERIES

There was discussion about doing loam/seed/fertilization projects in Town. The Committee tabled the vote on the Cemetery budget until more information was given about projects coming up.

D. 4196 INSURANCE

Greg Fraize recommended the Board of Selectmen's recommendation of \$35,519 for the line 4196 INSURANCE. Pat Martel seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

E. 4197 ADVERTISING & REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Greg Fraize recommended the Board of Selectmen's recommendation of \$7,114 for the line 4197 ADVERTISING & REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS. Joe Micelle seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

F. 4199 TOWN REPORT

Greg Fraize recommended the Board of Selectmen's recommendation of \$2,400 for the line 4199 TOWN REPORT. Pat Martel seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

G. 4290 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Greg Fraize recommended the Board of Selectmen's recommendation of \$4,130 for the line 4290 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT. Joe Micelle seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

H. 4414 ANIMAL CONTROL

Based on history, the Board of Selectmen lowered the Patrol Wages line (hours) based on what was needed. The Selectmen thought it was good to plan \$800 for Kennel/Supplies just in case. Mr. Kimball noted that the Truck Fuel line was not historically spent as budgeted; Mr. Cordes explained that this year the Fire Department Chief might need to put a trailer hitch on this truck since the vehicle he was using is out of service.

Pat Martel recommended the Board of Selectmen's recommendation of \$9,630 for the line 4414 ANIMAL CONTROL. Greg Fraize seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

I. 4442 WELFARE

This budget was mandated. Ms. Carlson had reviewed the budget with the Welfare Department.

Pat Martel recommended the Board of Selectmen's recommendation of \$14,850 for the line 4442 WELFARE. Mike Micelle seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 9, 2013

Gene Cordes motioned to approve as amended the minutes of October 9, 2013. Greg Fraize seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

V. OTHER

Parks & Recreation would be reviewed at the next meeting. There was brief discussion regarding increasing cost of field trips to avoid overspending and field maintenance changes. Mr. Cordes mentioned that the program was within \$1,000 of paying for itself.

Mr. Fraize said he would be sure to email to information that was requested by Mr. Nygren at the last meeting.

The budgets for the Police Department and combined tax collector position would be discussed at the next meeting.

Mr. Kimball announced the resignation of Joe Micelle due to changes in his work hours/shift.

Mr. Fraize mentioned that the location of the School Board meeting, including the initial presentation of the school budget, was changed to the Ellis School Library on October 22, 2013. Included in the agenda was a School Board approval letter from NH DOE regarding grant expenditure (which was approved).

VI. NEXT MEETING DATE: WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 23, 2013

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mike Nygren motioned to adjourn at 8:17 PM. Gene Cordes seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

Respectfully submitted by,

Susan Perry,

Budget Committee Secretary